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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 6753rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 April 2012, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

"The Security Council remains gravely concerned about the threat of terrorism, and the risk that non-state actors may acquire, develop, traffic in or use weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

"The Security Council reaffirms the need for all Member States to comply fully with their obligations and fulfill their commitments in relation to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

"The Security Council reaffirms its support for the multilateral treaties whose aim is to eliminate or prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and the importance for all States Parties to these treaties to implement them fully in order to promote international stability.

"The Security Council reaffirms resolution 1540 (2004), which affirms that States shall take effective measures to prevent non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and to establish domestic controls to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials, recognizes States' progress in implementing resolution 1540 (2004), endorses the work carried out by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and, in that regard, recalls resolution 1977 (2011) which extends the mandate of the 1540 Committee for ten years.

"The Security Council recognizes the importance of the 2012 and 2010 Nuclear Security Summits, the 2012 and 2010 Nuclear Security Summit Communiqués, and the 2010 Nuclear Security Summit Work Plan.

"The Security Council welcomes the commitments made by Nuclear Security Summit participants to take national actions, as appropriate, to increase nuclear security domestically and to work through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, in particular the International Atomic Energy Agency

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(IAEA), to improve nuclear security and encourages all States to take national actions to this end.

"The Security Council reaffirms, in this context, its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 1887 (2009).

"The Security Council recalls that effective IAEA safeguards are essential to prevent nuclear proliferation and to facilitate cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and renews its call on all States to cooperate fully with the IAEA.

"The Security Council affirms the essential responsibility and central role of the IAEA in strengthening the international nuclear security framework, and also supports the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan for 2010-2013.

"The Security Council welcomes the adoption of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety, recalls the IAEA June 2011 ministerial conference on nuclear safety and the September 2011 UN High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security convened by the Secretary-General and values various international initiatives and efforts to this end.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of international efforts to establish self-sustaining Nuclear Security Support Centers and the IAEA's plan to establish the International Network for Nuclear Security Training and Support Centers.

"The Security Council welcomes the additional ratifications of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the recent adherences to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of the progress made by the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism.

"The Security Council recognizes the progress made by the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and values its extension beyond 2012.

"The Security Council encourages States to participate in the IAEA illicit trafficking database program.

"The Security Council appreciates the efforts of the International Criminal Police Organization in the field of countering illicit nuclear trafficking, including through the establishment of its Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit.

"The Security Council takes note of international efforts towards preventing the financing of proliferation-related activities, and takes note of the work of the Financial Action Task Force.

"The Security Council welcomes the establishment of the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centers of Excellence.

"The Security Council calls upon States that have not yet done so to submit a first report on implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), and

encourages all States to provide, when appropriate or upon the request of the 1540 Committee, additional implementation information.

"The Security Council calls upon all States Parties to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material to ratify the Amendment to the Convention as soon as possible and encourages them to act in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Amendment until such time as it enters into force, and also encourages all States that have not yet done so to adhere to the Convention and adopt its Amendment as soon as possible.

"The Security Council encourages all States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and encourages discussions among States Parties to consider measures to effectively implement the Convention.

"The Security Council underlines the importance for States to share best practices with a view to improved nuclear security practices to reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism, with the aim of securing all vulnerable nuclear material from such risks, encourages all States to implement the IAEA's most current recommendations on physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities (INFCIRC/225/Rev.5), encourages efforts to secure radioactive sources, and calls for States to support the IAEA Nuclear Security Plan for 2010-2013 and to make voluntary contributions to the Nuclear Security Fund.

"The Security Council calls upon all States Parties to improve their national capabilities to detect, deter and disrupt illicit trafficking in nuclear materials throughout their territories, in accordance with their national authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law, including relevant international legal obligations, and calls upon those states in the position to do so to work to enhance international partnerships and capacity-building in this regard.

"The Security Council in this regard, encourages States to take all appropriate national measures in accordance with their national authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law, to strengthen export controls, to control access to intangible transfers of technology and to information that could be used for weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, to prevent proliferation financing and shipments, and to secure sensitive materials.

"The Security Council encourages all States to manage responsibly and minimize to the greatest extent that is technically and economically feasible the use of highly enriched uranium for civilian purposes, including by working to convert to the use of low enriched uranium fuels and targets research reactors and radioisotope production processes taking into account the need for assured supplies of medical isotopes."